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April 21, 1997

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Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

**BY HAND-DELIVERY**

William F. Caton, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
Room 222  
1919 M Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Ex Parte Communications in IB Docket No. 95-59 and  
CS Docket Nos. 96-8 and 95-184

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Lawrence R. Sidman, of this firm, representing Thomson Consumer Electronics, Inc. and Bruce Allan and Bill Mengel of Thomson Consumer Electronics, Inc., met with Bill Johnson, JoAnn Lucanik, Mike Lance and John Wong of the Cable Services Bureau on April 17, 1997, to discuss engineering and installation issues raised in CS Docket No. 95-184. The principal focus of the discussion was a presentation by Mr. Mengel concerning the feasibility of various approaches to inside wiring in multiple dwelling units to enhance competition in the multichannel video programming marketplace.

In accordance with Section 1.1206 of the Commission's Rules, an original and one copy of this letter and the written ex parte presentation provided to the Cable Services Bureau Staff during the meeting are being filed with your office.

Any questions concerning this matter should be directed to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

*Lawrence R. Sidman*

Lawrence R. Sidman

Enclosure  
cc (w/o encl.):  
Bill Johnson  
JoAnn Lucanik  
Mike Lance  
John Wong

# **Multiple Dwelling Units**

- **Market**
- **Digital Transition Issues**
- **Technologies**

# **Digital Transition : Environment**

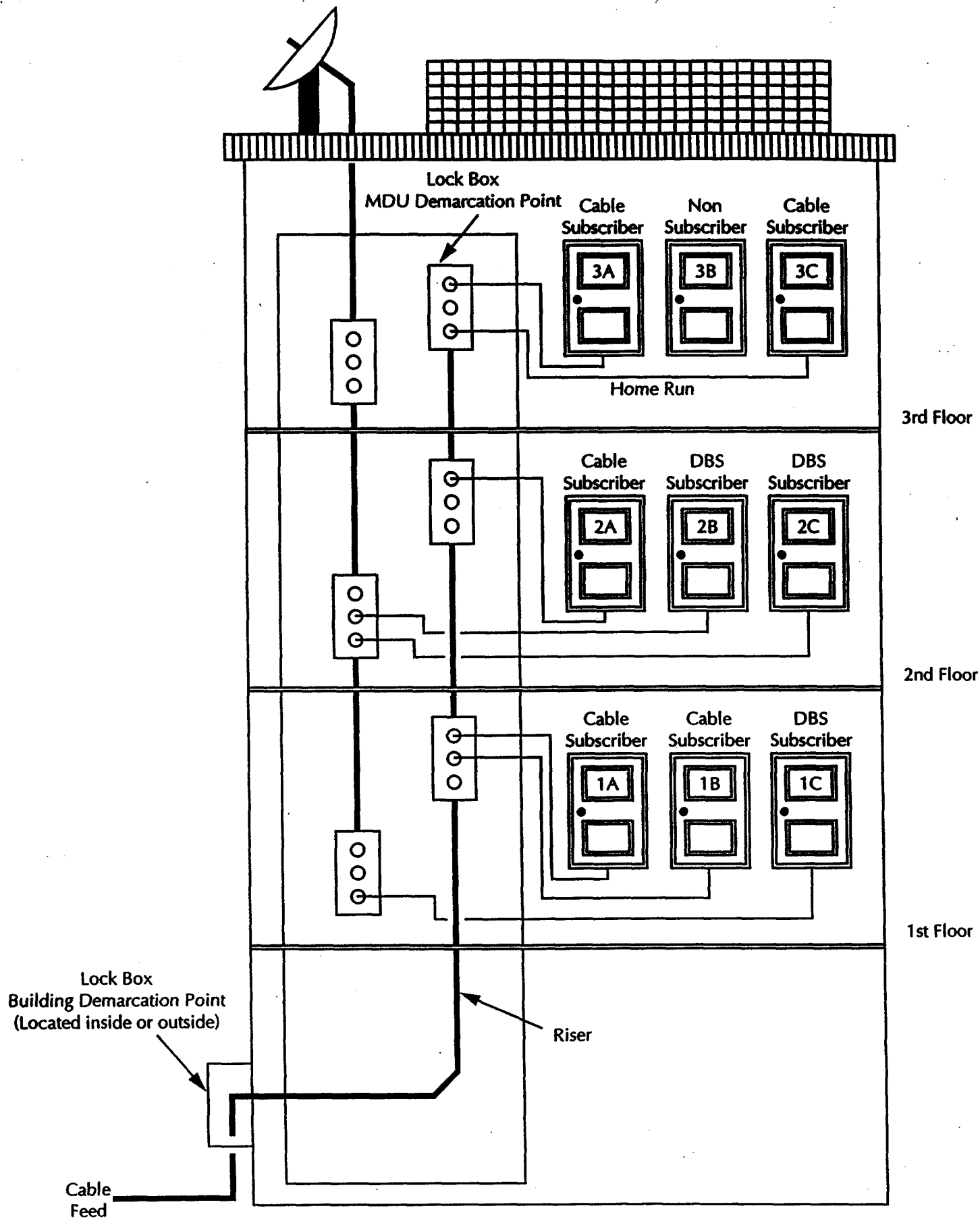
- **Consumers find the service desirable**
- **Consumers want a choice**
- **Consumers do not want to be discriminated because of domicile**
- **25 million households in this classification**

# **Digital Transition : Issues**

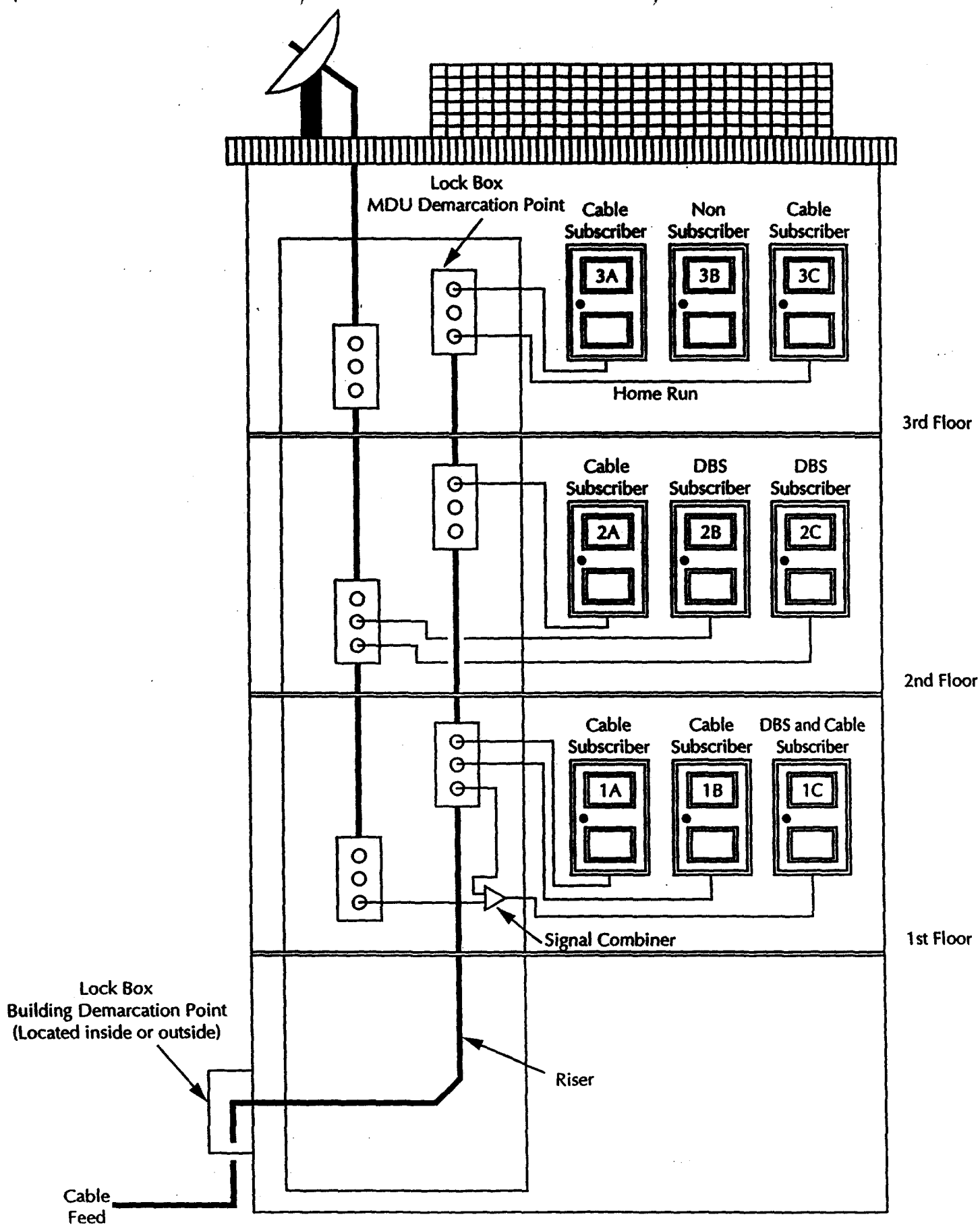
- **Current Operating Environment**
  - More than one decision maker
  - Physical restraints
  - Encumbent service
- **Business Implications**
  - Relationships/Partnerships
  - Capital investment
  - Physical infrastructure
- **Political Aspects**
  - Consumer choice
  - Accessibility to signals
  - Physical or Virtual Demarcation Points

# **Digital Transition : Technology**

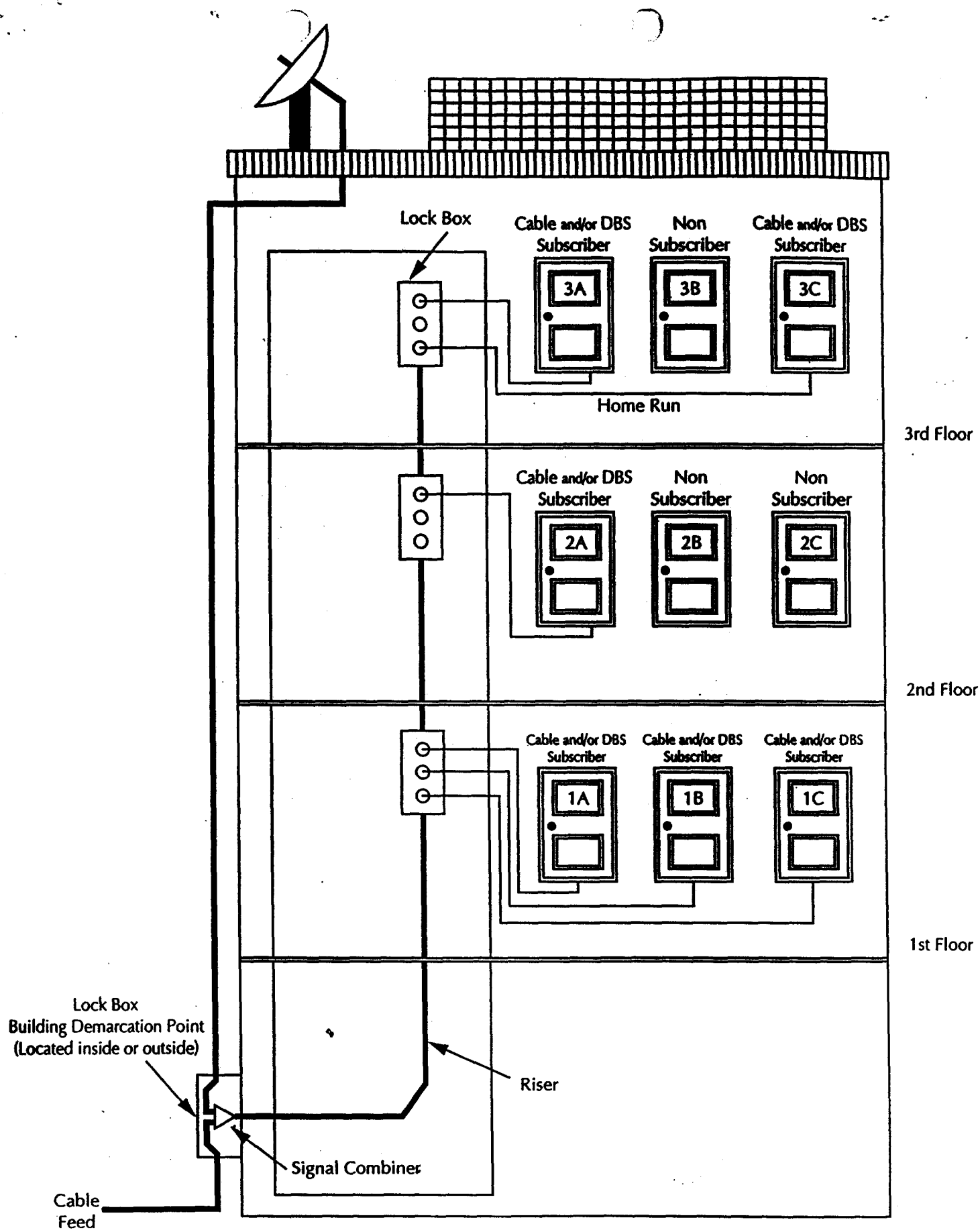
- **Maturing Technology Easily Supports Majority of Market and Most Scenarios**
  - Market can transition using existing technology
- **New Distribution Schemes and Products are Evolving That can Specifically Address this Market**
  - Product evolution will allow increased participation throughout all market segments



**Incumbent or Alternate Service**



**Incumbent and/or Alternate Service**



**Incumbent and/or Alternate Service  
(Preferred Installation)**